

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 00672 191903Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 /077 W  
-----063281 200801Z /13

R 191858Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3163  
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 00672

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1  
TAGS: PEPR, EK, SP  
SUBJECT: GOS EXPECTS CRUNCH ON EQUATORIAL GUINEA IN MARCH

REF: 77 MADRID 7457

1. ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DEPARTING CHIEF FOR SUBSAHARA AFRICA AND CONTINENTAL ASIA (CASSINELLO), THE GOS NOW EXPECTS ITS PLANNED PRESSURE ON EQUATORIAL GUINEAN PRESIDENT MASIE TO REACH A CRITICAL POINT IN MARCH. AT THAT POINT TWO AIRCRAFT OF THE EG INTERNAL AIRLINE (A JOINT SPANISH/EG VENTURE) ARE EXPECTED TO REACH THE END OF THEIR PERMISSIBLE FLYING TIME, AND MASIE WILL EITHER HAVE TO COME UP WITH HIS SHARE OF THE MONEY FOR REPLACEMENTS OR THE GOS WILL ALLOW THE AIRLINE TO CLOSE DOWN. MASIE HAS ALREADY HAD EXPLAINED TO HIM, BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SPANISH AIRLINE IBERIA, THE ABSOLUTE NATURE OF THE TECHNICAL AND LEGAL BARS AGAINST USE OF THE AIRCRAFT AFTER THEIR HOURS ARE UP.

2. THE TECHNICAL/LEGAL EXPLANATION, CASSINELLO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 00672 191903Z

EXPLAINED, WAS AIMED AT KEEPING MASIE FROM CLAIMING HE HAD NO WARNING. MASIE'S REACTION WHEN THE TIME CAME WAS NEVERTHELESS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT, CASSINELLO SAID, AND IT WAS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT INSTEAD OF FLYING INTO A RAGE HE WOULD TURN OUT BOTH TO HAVE THE MONEY AND TO BE WILLING TO USE IT.

3. WHILE CASSINELLO UNDERSTANDABLY DID NOT EXPRESS MUCH HOPE IN THE LATTER POSSIBILITY, HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WOULD CLEARLY PREFER IT. WE RATHER SUSPECT, IN FACT, THAT OFFICIAL SPANISH IRE MAY HAVE SUBSIDED IN THE TIME ELAPSED SINCE MASIE GAVE THE OFFENSIVE SPEECH THAT SET THE GOS ON ITS CURRENT COURSE (REFTEL), AND THAT THE GOS WOULD PREFER TO AVOID BOTH THE POTENTIAL RISKS TO THE SPANIARDS RESIDING IN EG, AND THE POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS ON ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, THAT COULD RESULT FROM ITS BREAKING WITH ITS FORMER COLONY. STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MADRID00672  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780030-0649  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MADRID  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780146/aaaabmwew.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7fe93be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MADRID 7457  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3748601  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOS EXPECTS CRUNCH ON EQUATORIAL GUINEA IN MARCH  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PGOV, EK, SP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7fe93be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014